which runs from Palika Kendra to Shalimar Bagh in North Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that quite often the intervals of the said service are very long, the buses are crowded and public find it difficult to board or alight from the buses;

(c) whether some complaints have been received in this regard;

(d) whether Government have examined the matter, and whether it is proposed to increase the frequency of the service; and

(e) if so, by when the improvements in this service would be brought about?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) 30 minutes during the peak hours and one hour for the rest of the period.

(b) to (e) DTC has intimated that the frequency of 30/60 minutes is maintained and that surveys conducted from time to time reveal that traffic load on this route is only during peak hours and that there is no over crowding. Certain complaints regarding irregularity of operations were received. These were looked into and instructions for regularity in operations have been issued. There is no proposal to increase frequency on this route as existing arrangements cater to the needs of commuters.

Change in India's policy on Sri Lanka

1415. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shri M. Karunanidhi, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, held talks recently with the Central Government regarding Sri Lankan Tamils; and

(b) whether Government propose to change their policy regarding Sri Lanka in any way, in view of the new Governments in Tamil Nadu and Sri lanka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu met Prime Minister on the 9th and 10th February, 1989. The Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement and the latest developments in Sri Lanka were among the subjects discussed. It was decided that further discussions will be held to explore possibilities or ending violence and resroting full harmony and peace.

Payment of outstanding sales tax by Cochin Shipyard Ltd. to Kerala Goverment

1416. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of outstanding sales tax to be paid by Cochin Shipyard Ltd. to the Kerala government.

(b) whether the Chief Minister of Kerala has refused to accept the refused to accept the request of the Central government to declare sales tax holiday for ten years to the Cochin Shipyard Ltd; and

(c) what action government propose to take to pay the sales tax?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The amount of outstanding sales tax to be paid by Cochin Shipyard Ltd to the Kerala Government is Rs. 5.80 crores.

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) The Central Government would continue their efforts to find an amicable solution.